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News Release

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SOUTH CAROLINA EGG PRODUCTION DOWN FROM 2012

SOUTH CAROLINA'S laying flocks produced 95 million eggs during March down 3 percent from last year, according to the USDA-NASS, South Carolina Field Office. Production totaled 73 million table eggs and 22 million hatching eggs. The number of layers averaged 4,407,000 birds, up 2 percent from 4,310,000 a year ago. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,156 eggs, compared with 2,274 in 2012.

UNITED STATES egg production totaled 8.07 billion during March 2013, up 2 percent from last year. Production included 6.99 billion table eggs, and 1.08 billion hatching eggs, of which 1.00 billion were broiler-type and 79 million were egg-type. The total number of layers during March 2013 averaged 347 million, up 2 percent from last year. March egg production per 100 layers was 2,325 eggs, up slightly from March 2012.

SOUTH CAROLINA BROILER HATCHERY PRODUCTION DOWN

During the month of March, SOUTH CAROLINA'S broiler hatcheries produced 18.6 million chicks, down 4 percent from the 19.3 million hatched in March 2012.

The UNITED STATES Broiler-type chicks hatched during March 2013 totaled 770 million, up 1 percent from March 2012. Eggs in incubators totaled 623 million on April 1, 2013, up 1 percent from a year earlier.